

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 221900
ORIGIN ARA-14

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DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN:JWHITING; S/PTA:DHPOPPER:JK
APPROVED BY S/PTA:AMB. POPPER
L - MR. FORTUNE
ARA/PAN - MR. HAAHR
DOD - GEN. DOLVIN (SUBS)

-----055157 320003Z /14

P 312031Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY
INFO PANCANAL
USCINCSO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, EWWT, US, PN

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH GOP ON TREATY IMPLEMENTATION

REFS: A) STATE 156634; B) POPPER LETTER TO FABREGA DATED
8/16/78

1. FOLLOWING UP ON REF B AND POPPER-FABREGA AND POPPER-
DIKEOS TELECONS, WE WILL NOW PREPARE FOR FIRST VISIT TO
PANAMA BY CONSULTATIVE GROUP PRECURSOR DESCRIBED IN REF A.
PURPOSE OF VISIT IS TO ESTABLISH THE BASIS FOR FRIENDLY
AND CONSTRUCTIVE CONSULTATION ON TREATY IMPLEMENTATION,
BEYOND THE DAY-TO-DAY RELATIONSHIPS ALREADY IN TRAIN WITH
GOP OFFICIALS. ON OUR SIDE WE WOULD BE REPRESENTED BY THE
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY FOR PANAMA TREATY
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PAGE 02 STATE 221900

AFFAIRS AND THE DOD REPRESENTATIVE FOR PANAMA CANAL TREATY
AFFAIRS, WITH AN EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE. WE HAVE IN MIND
SESSIONS WITH GOP PARTICIPANTS WHICH WOULD COVER THREE
TO FOUR DAYS BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 18. SCHEDULE SHOULD ALLOW
TIME FOR MEETINGS WITH GOVERNOR, CINC AND EMBASSY. WE
WOULD WELCOME CONFIRMATION FROM FABREGA THAT THESE DATES
ARE SUITABLE, AND AN INDICATION OF IDENTITY OF PANAMA

REPRESENTATIVES.

2. PLEASE TELL FABREGA THAT WE WOULD LIKE THE MEETING TO SERVE AS A DEMONSTRATION OF CONTINUING HIGH-LEVEL USG INTEREST IN PREPARING FOR SUCCESSFUL TREATY IMPLEMENTATION. SUBSTANTIVELY, WE THINK IT SHOULD BE DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO A GENERAL REVIEW OF WHERE WE STAND IN THE PRINCIPAL AREAS OF ACTIVITY WITH WHICH BOTH GOVERNMENTS WILL BE CONCERNED UNDER THE CANAL TREATY. WE INTEND THAT IN THE MONTHS PRIOR TO THE COMING INTO FORCE OF THE TREATY A MAXIMUM EFFORT BE MADE TO ENSURE FRIENDLY AND EFFICIENT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREATY'S PROVISIONS, IN THE SAME SPIRIT OF COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP WHICH LED TO THEIR NEGOTIATION AND ADOPTION.

3. WHILE WE ARE OPEN TO ANY SUGGESTIONS FABREGA MAY HAVE AS TO AN AGENDA, WE WOULD SUGGEST FOR THIS INITIAL MEETING A BROAD OVERVIEW STRUCTURED ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

A. STATUS OF US AND PANAMA IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION OR DECREES.

B. MECHANISMS AND PROCEDURES FOR COORDINATION BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING GENERAL WORK PRIORITIES AND GUIDELINES FOR PRE-TREATY DAY ACTIVITY.
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PAGE 03 STATE 221900

C. REVIEW OF PROGRESS AND PROBLEMS IN CONNECTION WITH ANCILLARY AGREEMENTS AND ARRANGEMENTS TO BE CONCLUDED BEFORE THE CANAL TREATY ENTERS INTO EFFECT (E.G., COROZAL EMETERY, FAA, USATTC SITE, PRISONER EXCHANGE TREATY, BOUNDARY AND OTHER SURVEYS, ETC.).

D. REVIEW OF FUNCTIONS WHICH PANAMA WILL ASSUME ON DATE OF TREATY IMPLEMENTATION (FUNCTIONS WHICH US WILL NO LONGER HAVE LEGAL BASIS OR FINANCIAL AUTHORIZATION TO PERFORM).

E. MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN AND BROADEN CLIMATE OF COOPERATION AND WORKING PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN NATIONALS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES.

F. ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEFORESTATION MEASURES TO PREVENT DEGRADATION OF LAND AND WATER AREAS SURROUNDING CANAL.

4. PLEASE INFORM US OF OUTCOME OF YOUR DISCUSSION WITH FABREGA SOONEST, SO THAT WE MAY FIRM UP OUR PLANS.

5. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH DEFENSE. VANCE

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